File No. 276

1985.

Collection No. 6

Mysore Residency

Pros. Serial Nos. 89, 92–95 A

54

Subject.

Adequacy of the grant for the upkeep of military roads discussed.

Previous References.	Later References.

MGIPC—PP—725DCF—S&P—(G-1576)—14-3-28 -60,000.

I. A. F. Z2010.
Gratis—Departments.
Payment—Corps.

89

No. 10536.

SUBJECT

Office of the Asst. Comdg. Royal Engineer,

Station Bangalore, *Date* 8 December 1910.

FROM

The Asst. Comdg. Royal Engineer,

Bangalore.

THE President, Municipal Commission,

Civil and Military Station,

Bangalore.

Sir,

In reference to your No.2673 of 10th. September 1910 on the subject of the contribution paid to the Municipal Commission of the Civil and Military Station for the maintenance of the Military Roads, I have the honour to forward copy of a letter No.685/1/(m.W.2) of 28th. November 1910 from the Director General of Military Works, Services to the General Officer Commanding 9th. Division and of endorsement thereon No.4313 of 7th. December 1910 from the Commanding Royal Engineer, 9th. Division.

2. It now lies with you, if you still wish to press for an increase in the contribution, to make out a stronger case, based on the proportions of Civil and Military traffic carried on the roads in the station generally.

3. Kindly let me know what revenue, if any, has been realized from the trees on the roads, and what amounts have been paid to the General Officer Commanding Troops since January 1908.

4.

P.T.O.

4. A copy of this letter has been sent to the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore.

IT' FICE,
7611
dt. 15/12/10
2765

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. A. R. Reynolds.

Lt.Colonel,R.E.,
A.C.R.E.,Bangalore.
D.R.V.

ENCLOSURE:-

1 copy of letter.

---&&O&&O&&---

No. 10537 dated 13th December 1910.

To

The First Assistant to the Resident,in Mysore,

Bangalore.

Copy forwarded for information.

A. A. Reynolds

Lt.Colonel,R.E.,
A.C.R.E.,Bangalore.
D.R.V.

Rest.

maybe filed pertem -
The Municipal Commissioner will presumably refer to this office before a copy is sent to you & the A.C.R.E's letter -
They might mull have kept this on file alone -
A.J.
16/12/10

Rest. (for information)
A.C.R.E.
In this case when the Municipality will probably come to grief thro' demanding more money from Cant. Pblo
17/12

Copy of a letter No.685/1(M.W.2), dated 28th. November 1910, fr the Director General of Military Works to the General Officer Commandi 9th. (Sec'bad) Division.

----------&&&0&&&0&&&----------

Maintenance of Roads at Bngalore.

----------:0:----------

I am directed to refer to your letter No.487-M.W.S., dated 22nd. September 1910, in which it is recommended that the annual contributio of Rs 10,440/- paid by the Governmentof India to the Municipal Commission of Bangalore for the maintenance of 20 5/8 miles of roads at Bangalore may be increased to Rs 15,500/- from the 1st.April 1911.

2 It is reported that the contribution fixed in 1909 appears to have been for the metalling of the roads only, and that it did not allow for any minor and occasional repairs to road culverts . It is also stated that since 1895, when the rate for the maintenance of these roads was calculated at Rs 500/- per mile, the rates for labour and material have risen, and that the Municipal Commission are therefore unable to carry out the remetalling of the roads as often as once in 5 years. The actual cost of the upkeep of the roads is now estimated at Rs 15,743/-.

3. In reply I am to invite a reference to your letter No.648-M.W.S. dated 2nd. October 1907, in which it was reported "that the l·rge "majority of the roads classed as Military roads are to all intents "and purposes nothing but civil roads, used almost exclusively for "the ordinary traffic of the station of which the actual military "traffic forms but a comparatively insignificant proportion" and it was stated "that were the military to be withdrawn from the station "tomorrow, the large majority of these roads would have to be, and "would be maintained in the condition in which they are at the "present time". It would thus appear that,even if the Government of India

India have been paying only two thirds of what is now estimated to be the cost of upkeep of these roads (Rs 15,743/-)the present contribution is still excessive and it is evident that the military estimates have been saddled with expenditure which is normallycivil, and from which the Army gets no advantage whatever commensurate with the expense. I am therefore to request that the whole question may be reconsidered on the basis of the military utility of these roads and on population and traffic data.

4. I am also to say that the present contribution was fixed less th three years ago. Yet in support of its revision the rise in rates since 1895 is put forward and also the fact that the increased contribution so recently sanctioned did not include repairs to culverts &c. Yet there must have been culverts previous to 1908. A solution of this point may be that the present fixed annual contribution is only really a part payment for the upkeep of the roads,-but a further explanation is required.

5. I am to add that one of the conditions on which the Government contribution was sanctioned in Department of Military Supply letter No.187-M.W., dated 17th. January 1908, was "that all revenue realized by the Municipality from the trees on the roads be paid over to the Officer Commanding the Station, or a fixed annual sum (to be mutually arranged) in lieu thereof". The amount of the sum so paid should be reported.

----------&&O&&----------

Copy of endorsement No. 4313, dated 7th. December 1910 from the Commanding Royal Engineer, 9th. Division, to the A.C.R.E.Bangalore.

Copy forwarded for compliance with reference to your No.1552, dat 17th. September 1910 in conference with the Hon'ble the Resident and the Municipal Authorities.

----------&&O&&O&&----------

92

original on file 38/913 (8:17)

Copy of No: 4952 & 15.8.1913 from the
1st Assistant Resident to the
Resdt: Mc: Comtt: Cotton Stas: Bangkok

I am directed to invite
a reference to letter No 10536 & the 13th
1851 221/85 Dece 1910 from the A.C. R.S., Bangkok,
to your address, regarding Military
Roads in the Cotton districts of Bangkok,
and to request that the Resident
may be informed what action
has been taken by the
Mil: Comtt: on the points
raised in that letter?

(Copies sent to Bangkok for file 38/913)

(Original in file 38/1913.)
Sr. 18.

93

No. 3295 Enc. 2.

Civil and Military Station, Bangalore
Municipal Office
Dated 25th August 1913

Reg no. 4767
Date 27.8.1913.

From

A R. Cox Esquire B.A., I.C.S.
President, Municipal Commission
C&M. Station, Bangalore

To

P. B. Warburton Esquire B.A., I.C.S.,
~~First Assistant to the~~ Hon'ble the Resident
in Mysore

Sir,

With reference to your no. 4952 dated the 19th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith for information Copies of the marginally noted replies* sent to the Assistant Commanding Royal Engineer, Bangalore, on the subject of enhanced contribution to the Municipal Commission for the maintenance of Military roads in the Station.

I have &c

Sd A R. Cox
President, Municipal Comm.
C&M. Station
Bangalore.

* no. 16 dated 1st April 1911
no. 2708 dated 11th August 1911

original a- 18/4 of fl 38/913

93/a.

Civil and Military Station, Bangalore
Municipal Office
Dated 18th April 1911

No. 16.

From

F. J. Richards Esquire M.A., I.C.S.,
President, Municipal Commission,
C & M. Station, Bangalore.

To

The Assistant Commanding Royal Engineer
Bangalore

Sir,

With reference to your letter No. 10536 dated 13th December 1910 and subsequent reminder thereon No. 1180 dated the 8th instant, regarding the enhanced grant required for the maintenance of Military roads in the Station, I have the honour to inform you that this question can lie over for the present.

SL 8/1/ 276/85

2. All the conditions of the transfer of the Military roads to the Municipality will be adhered to except the remetalling of the 1/5 of the enhanced length of Military roads which can only be done when the enhanced grant asked for is sanctioned. A larger amount than the present contribution of Rs 10440/- will be spent for the proper maintenance of the Military roads.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Sd. F. J. Richards
President, Municipal Comm.
C & M Stn. Bangalore.

Copy"
Sd. H. Clarke
. Secretary

[Original in file 38/1913 SR. 18(b)]

93
1

No. 2708

Civil and Military Station Bangalore
Municipal Office
Dated 11th August 1913

From

F. J. Richards Esquire M.A., I.C.S.
President, Municipal Commission
C & M. Station, Bangalore.

To

The Assistant Commanding Royal Engineer
Bangalore Brigade. M. W. Services
Bangalore.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 3444 dated the 7th July 1911, in which you say that the Director General of Military Works was pressing for a reply to his letter in regard to the Charges for maintenance of the Military Roads in this Station.

5.18/9 2. In my letter No. 16 dated the 18th April 1911, I said that "the question could lie over for the present" but as you desire a definite expression of my opinion on the Director General's letter, I have the honour to state that the mileage of the Station is 99 miles of which 23 3/8 are called "Military" and towards the maintenance of these 23 3/8 miles the Military Department contributes the sum of Rs 10,440/- per annum.

3. The so called Military roads are of far more importance than the other roads as they are and all lead from and to the principal centres of the Station, they are much broader and so cost a good deal more to maintain in proper order. The local Military authorities require a high standard of metalling, and Military traffic is heavy and rough and it is probable that if "the Military were to be withdrawn from the Station" (quotation from para 2 of the Director General's letter) a lower state of efficiency and a lower cost of maintenance would suffice.

Moreover admitting that the Civil population also make use of these roads, are not the remaining 75 odd

miles open to, and used by the Military population?

4. The Director General wants the question reconsidered with reference to:-

(a) the Military utility of these roads,

(b) population,

(c) traffic

As to (a) I doubt if any one of the military roads could be closed without causing the garrison no end of inconvenience. As to (b) the Military population as taken at the Census in March last is a little over one ninth of the total population of the Station and if the apportionment of the cost of maintenance were made on this basis the amount payable on this account at one ninth of the total municipal revenue would be about Rs 43000/- per annum.

Total population	100,723
Military	12,161

Estimate Revenue for 1911-12 Rs 3,90,000/-

As to (c) a comparison could hardly be made on these lines; for the wear and tear on the roads caused by the Civil population who for the most part use rubber-tyred conveyances cannot be compared with the wear and tear caused by the heavy artillery, Ammunition Column, and transport waggons and carts.

5. The maintenance of total mileage of the Station Costs roughly one lakh a year and expenditure on the present scale would certainly not be necessary if the Station ceased to be occupied by the Military garrison.

Up-Keep for 1911-12	44,740
lighting	28,000
Conservancy	26,000
	98,740

6. When considering this question it must not be forgotten that if the Military population were taxed on the same lines as the Civil population, the Municipal revenue would be enhanced yearly by about Rs 44000/- as shown on the margin. All things Considered therefore, I am of opinion that the sum of Rs 15500/- asked for as a legitimate Contribution on Military roads is not by any means excessive. In fact I would go further and say that if the same ratio as is observed in the maintenance of the water supply were applied to roads and the Military Contribution put down at 1/3 of Rs100000 it would be only fair to all the parties for if 99 miles cost one Lakh to maintain the Contribution of Rs 10440/- is short by about Rs 12,794.

Tolls	5000
Foreign Vehicles and animals	3500
Tax on buildings	20,840
Octroi Duties	15,000
	44,340

~~Tolls 5000~~
~~Foreign Vehicles and animals 3500~~
~~Tax on Buildings 20,840~~
~~Octroi Duties 15,000~~
~~44,340~~

I have &c.
Sd F. J. Richards
President M.C.

Rs.

S. S.—R. P. B.—1-1913.—10,000.

(Original in file 38/1913)

94

[DRAFT.]

From

P. B. Warburton Esq. I.C.S.
First Assistant Resident in Mysore

To

The A.C. R.E. Bangalore

No. 5214

11th September 1913.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to letter No. 2708 dated the 11th August 1911 from the President, Municipal Comm. Cit. & Sn. Station of Bangalore, to your address, regarding the charges for maintenance of military roads in the Cant. Station and to request that the Resident may be informed at an early date how the matter now stands.

I have &c.

Sd. P. B. Warburton
First Assistant Resist.

Sd 9/9/13

(Original in file 38/1913)

No. 4621

95

Office of the A.C.R.E, Bangalore
Dated 5th September 1913.

Reg no. 5007
Dated 8-9-1913.

From

The Assistant Commanding Royal Engineer
Bangalore.

To

The First Assistant to the Hon'ble the
Resident in Mysore,
Bangalore

Sir

With reference to your no. 5294 of 1st September 1913, I have the honour to forward a copy of letter no. 446 M.W.S. of 29th August 1911 from the General Officer Commanding IXth Division to the Director General of Military Works, this is the last communication in this office.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant
Sd H.V.M. Marshall Major R.E.
A.C.R.E., Bangalore.

original in file 38 (or 20/a) 1910

95/a

Letter no: 446. M.W.S. dated 29th August 1911, from the General Officer Commanding 9th Division Poona Command, to the Director General of Military Works, Simla.

Maintenance of Roads at Bangalore

With reference to your no: 685/1. (M.W. 2) dated 28th November 1910, I have the honour to inform you that on reconsideration and after a reference to the President, Municipal Commission, Civil & Military Station, Bangalore, I am of opinion that no case for the increase ~~of the increase~~ of the annual Contribution towards the maintenance of the roads, has been made out and that pending any further representations by the Municipality, the matter may now be dropped.

2. An increase could only be recommended on clear proof of a substantial rise in cost of materials and labour, since

Since the present amount of Contribution was fixed by Government of India in 1908. 85 C9/a 51/a

3. As regards repairs to Culverts, etc, it is true that the agreements under which the municipality prior to 1908 kept the roads in order for a fixed sum as apart of the M-W-S, excluded upkeep of bridges, parapets, Culverts & other masonry works, but, the roads having been handed over to the municipality under the orders of the Government of India, it is clear that we have no longer any liability in Connection with their maintenance beyond the payment of the fixed annual Contribution.

4 The following extract from the Hon'ble the Resident in Mysore's No: 4992 dated the 26th July 1907 (forwarded to you with this office No 648 M-W-S, dated 3rd October 1907) shows that the fixed annual Contribution was not intended to 65

Cover

Cover the whole cost of maintenance of the so called Military roads

× × ×

The Contribution is in fact a subvention to the Municipality for keeping up the roads in such a State of Repairs generally, and with such a width of metalling in particular, as will render them fit for Military traffic"

× × ×

5. With reference to para 5 of your letter under reply, a sum of Rs 15:2.0 was remitted to the Station Staff Officer, Bangalore, by the Municipality in June 1909. Since that date, the roads as Military roads have (with the concurrence of the Honble the Resident in Mysore) been in charge of the Station Staff Officer, as the arrangement

b

by which the municipality was responsible for them, did not work well in practice.

RG